



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

USS CARL VINSON (CVN-70)
FLEET POST OFFICE
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From: Commanding Officer, USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70)
To: Chief of Naval Operations (Op-05D2)

Subj: 1985 COMMAND HISTORY

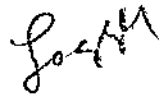
Ref: (a) OPNAVINST 5750.12C

- Encl: (1) Historical Narrative
(2) Major Operational Evolutions
(3) Significant Department Achievements
(4) Retention Statistics
(5) Distinguished Visitors and Media Visits at Sea
(6) Distinguished Visitors and Media Visits In Port and Special Events
(7) Commanding Officer's Biography

1. As required by reference (a), enclosures (1) through (7) are forwarded.


G. D. O'BRIEN, JR.

Copy to:
Director of Naval History



HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

USS CARL VINSON began 1985 at Leyte Pier, Naval Air Station, Cubi Point, Republic of the Philippines and ended it pierside at Naval Air Station, Alameda, California.

The officers and men of USS CARL VINSON had a most challenging and professionally satisfying year during 1985. The ship and embarked air wing enjoyed outstanding readiness while deployed and participated in real-world operations and exercises in the Sea of Japan, South China Sea and Indian Ocean. The highlights of the cruise included battle force Sea of Japan operations and an exceptionally difficult one-hundred seven day at sea period during which the most extended prosecution ever of a Soviet CHARLIE I submarine in the Indian Ocean occurred.

Carrier Air Wing FIFTEEN, embarked on board USS CARL VINSON from January to May, is made up of nine squadrons. They were Fighter Squadrons (VF) 51 and 111; Attack Squadrons (VA) 52, 27 and 97; Air Antisubmarine Helicopter Squadron (HS) 4; Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron (VAQ) 134; and Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron (VAW) 114. Also embarked was one C-2 aircraft from Fleet Logistics Support Squadron (VRC) 50 and one EA-3 aircraft from Fleet Air Reconnaissance Squadron (VQ) 1. Aircraft embarked aboard CARL VINSON use tail code NL (Carrier Air Wing FIFTEEN).

USS CARL VINSON departed the Republic of the Philippines on 3 January 1985 for a transit of the Malacca Straits to the Indian Ocean, arriving on 11 January to begin 42 consecutive days of fixed-wing flight operations which lasted until 12 April. Fixed-wing flight operations were conducted on 86 out of 91 days. North Arabian Sea Operations averaged 71 sorties per day and totaled 3,837 day and 2,449 night traps in four months. While in the Indian Ocean, several major exercises were conducted. An INCHOPEX with USS INDEPENDENCE (CV 62), which began on 18 January, provided a challenge in all warfare areas and served to prepare the command for the upcoming Indian Ocean operational period. North Arabian Sea threats were stressed during the exercises. A PASSEX involving U. S. and British units was conducted on 27 and 28 January and MULTIPLEX 85-3 was conducted from 29 through 31 January. In this exercise, battle group units gained proficiency in opposing simultaneous air, surface and sub-surface threats. Other exercises included surface gunnery, passive Over-The-Horizon Targeting, and Antiship Missile Defense. In March, ASUWEX 85.24, a tri-lateral, dual-phase, antisurface exercise was conducted.

This was followed by ASWEX 85-3U, a series of structured battle group antisubmarine warfare exercises designed to evaluate battle group sensors against subsurface threats. ASUWEX 85-2U, conducted 23 to 25 March, was a dynamic, freeplay operation followed by structured exercises. Strong ducting enabled air search radars to track surface contacts out to 120 nautical miles. Other highlights included significant communications training in a simulated hot war scenario. The Indian Ocean line period involved almost daily alert launches in response to Iranian and Soviet aircraft. CARL VINSON's OUTCHOP from the Indian Ocean commenced on 30 April.

After transiting the Lombok Straits, port calls were made in Perth, Western Australia; Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines and Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Upon leaving Hawaii 17 May, the ship began a TIGER CRUISE with 1,064 "Tigers" on board and arrived in Alameda on 24 May.

On 7 October, CARL VINSON was underway again for air wing carrier qualification operations in the Southern California Operations Area. Pre-refresher training (REFTRA) operations were conducted from 29 October through 8 November and Interim Refresher Training was held from 12 to 22 November. CARL VINSON completed INSURV on 6 December.

On return to the United States and completion of SRA, the 'Battlestar' became the first Pacific Fleet carrier to execute a modified turnaround training plan leading to an Advanced Training Assessment. In every category, the 'Battlestar' team met or exceeded all operational requirements or expectations.

As an effective supporter of the Navy's public affairs policy, CARL VINSON hosted numerous visitors in 1985. These included international dignitaries, high-level military and civilian personnel, and the dependent families of its officers and crew. As a result of its performance, the ship continues to enjoy the respect and admiration of the Bay Area's citizens. CARL VINSON projects the image of naval strength, pride, professionalism and community spirit.

Captain Thomas A. Mercer, USN, served as Commanding Officer, USS CARL VINSON. Captain Doyle J. Borchers, II, USN, served as Executive Officer.

1985 MAJOR OPERATIONAL EVOLUTIONS

85 JAN 01 Port Visit Republic of the Philippines (1-3 JAN)
85 JAN 04 UNREP with USNS HASSAYAMPA
85 JAN 08 UNREP with USS ROANOKE
85 JAN 09 Transit Malacca Straits
85 JAN 11 Indian Ocean/North Arabian Sea OPS (11 JAN-12 APR)
85 JAN 11 UNREP with USS ROANOKE
85 JAN 12 AMMO onload with USS KISKA (64 lifts recovered, 20 lifts off-loaded)
85 JAN 13 CONREP with USS KISKA (90 lifts)
85 JAN 16 UNREP with USS NIAGARA FALLS
85 JAN 17 Arrive On Station Indian Ocean
85 JAN 19 VERTREP with USS INDEPENDENCE for Battle Group turnover
85 JAN 20 UNREP with USS NIAGARA FALLS
85 JAN 22 UNREP with USNS HASSAYAMPA
85 JAN 26 UNREP with USS NIAGARA FALLS
85 JAN 27 UNREP with USS ROANOKE
85 JAN 27 PASSEX with British Units (27-28 JAN)
85 JAN 29 MULTIPLEX 85-3 (29-31 JAN)
85 FEB 03 UNREP with USS ROANOKE
85 FEB 04 Mickey Gilley and the Urban Cowboy Band
85 FEB 06 VERTREP with USS KISKA
85 FEB 09 UNREP with USS NIAGARA FALLS
85 FEB 10 UNREP with USS NIAGARA FALLS/USS KISKA
85 FEB 11 UNREP with USS ROANOKE
85 FEB 13 UNREP with USS ROANOKE/USS KISKA
85 FEB 16 BEACON FLASH 85-3
85 FEB 16 UNREP with USNS HASSAYAMPA
85 FEB 16 VERTREP with USS KISKA
85 FEB 20 VERTREP/CONREP with USS NIAGARA FALLS
85 FEB 20 UNREP with USS ROANOKE
85 FEB 23 VERTREP with USS KISKA
85 FEB 28 UNREP with USS ROANOKE
85 FEB 28 VERTREP with USS KISKA
85 MAR 02 UNREP with USS ROANOKE
85 MAR 03 UNREP with USS NIAGARA FALLS
85 MAR 06 UNREP with USS NIAGARA FALLS
85 MAR 07 UNREP with USS NIAGARA FALLS
85 MAR 07 VERTREP with USS KISKA
85 MAR 08 VERTREP with USS NIAGARA FALLS
85 MAR 13 VERTREP/CONREP with USS KISKA (135 lifts recovered, 30 lifts off-loaded)
85 MAR 14 UNREP with USNS HASSAYAMPA
85 MAR 17 VERTREP with USS KISKA
85 MAR 18 UNREP with USS NIAGARA FALLS (470 Pallets)
85 MAR 20 CONREP with USS ROANOKE
85 MAR 23 BEACON FLASH 85-4
85 MAR 23 ASWEX 85-2U (23-25 MAR)
85 MAR 25 UNREP with USS ROANOKE

85 MAR 26	VERTREP with USS ROANOKE
85 MAR 28	ANCHOR MASIRAH (28-30 MAR)
85 MAR 31	UNREP with USS NIAGARA FALLS
85 MAR 31	VERTREP with USS ROANOKE
85 APR 02	UNREP with USS NIAGARA FALLS (750 Pallets)
85 APR 03	VERTREP with USS ROANOKE (80 Pallets)
85 APR 03	VERTREP with USS KISKA/NIAGARA FALLS/USS JASON (45 Pallets)
85 APR 15	AMMO Off-load with USS KISKA
85 APR 19	Port Visit to Perth, Western Australia (19-26 APR)
85 APR 30	OUTCHOP Indian Ocean and Transit Lombok Straits
85 MAY 03	Port Visit to Subic Bay, Republic of the Philippines (3-6 MAY)
(b) (3) (A)	(b) (3) (A)
85 MAY 14	AMMO UNREP with USS KISKA
85 MAY 17	Port Visit to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii (17-18 MAY)
85 MAY 17	Commenced TIGER CRUISE (17-24 MAY)
85 MAY 20	AMMO Download with USS MAUNA KEA
85 MAY 21	AMMO Off-load with USS MAUNA KEA
85 MAY 22	VERTREP with USS INGERSOLL (Staff off-load)
85 MAY 24	HOME COMING - Arrival Alameda
(b) (3) (A)	(b) (3) (A)
85 JUL 01	SRA (JUL-SEP)
85 OCT 07	SOCAL OPS CQ (7-12 OCT)
85 OCT 11	ISE
85 OCT 24	Training Readiness Evaluation
85 OCT 28	3-M Inspection by AIRPAC
85 OCT 29	PRE-REFTRA OPS (29 OCT-08 NOV)
85 OCT 30	AMMO UNREP with USS HALEAKALA
85 OCT 31	AMMO UNREP with USS HALEAKALA
85 NOV 08	Inport NAS North Island, San Diego (8-12 NOV)
85 NOV 12	REFTRA (12-22 NOV)
85 NOV 14	AMMO UNREP with USS HALEAKALA
85 NOV 15	AMMO UNREP with USS HALEAKALA
85 NOV 23	Return to Homeport Alameda
85 NOV 27	INSURV Inspection (27 NOV-06 DEC)
(b) (3) (A)	(b) (3) (A)

SIGNIFICANT DEPARTMENT ACHIEVEMENTS

Engineering Department. During 1985, the CARL VINSON Engineering Department completed the WESTPAC/Indian Ocean deployment with a significantly high level of self sufficiency in the area of on board repair. Despite limited upkeep periods, the department successfully completed repairs to various major equipment casualties and returned from the deployment with all major equipment operational and in excellent material condition. Additionally, the department passed a Mobile Training Team visit. (b) (3) (A)

. In July, the department began an extensive three month SRA at Alameda. During this time the Superintendent of Shipbuilding, San Francisco, in conjunction with Continental Maritime Industries, Triple A Shipyard, TODD Marine Services, and ship's force completed a large, aggressive upkeep package. The package included the installation of several ship alterations to the (b) (3) (A) firemain indication and control systems and the Chemical Holding and Treatment (CHT) system. Additionally, ship's force personnel established and operated a valve barge facility and successfully refurbished over 2,000 valves. The completion of the program was highlighted by a (b) (3) (A) followed by an extremely successful underway sea trial period. (b) (3) (A)

. In October, the department's damage control and battle organization participated in Refresher Training and successfully completed all required exercises and drills. An overall grade of satisfactory was obtained, including a score of above average on the intensive and difficult mass conflagration drill. In November, the Engineering Department was inspected by the Board of Inspection and Survey (INSURV) to identify existing design and material deficiencies. The department received an overall grade of above average with no major restrictive discrepancies. (b) (3) (A)

CARL VINSON ended 1985 in excellent material condition with all major engineering equipment operational. Throughout the year, the Engineering Department provided the propulsion, power generation, and ship's services necessary to ensure that CARL VINSON was underway on time and always battle ready.

Reactor Department. (b) (3) (A)

Successes during the deployment were numerous and included several unprecedented achievements. Among these were an extraordinarily difficult 107 day at-sea period in the Indian Ocean. (b) (3) (A)

The CARL VINSON SRA period was completed in a uniquely outstanding fashion, completing all assigned work on or ahead of schedule. From 2 June to 7 October, Reactor Department personnel were tasked with the accomplishment of several different maintenance evolutions and ship alterations. (b) (3) (A)

Deck Department. Throughout 1985, the emphasis in Deck Department was on operational readiness. The department effectively met all ship requirements for resupply of fuel and stores to many smaller ships. This was accomplished by conducting over 40 underway replenishments using different types of rigs and without a single serious injury. During 1985, the department began to experience severe personnel shortages. Despite a manpower drop of almost 50 percent since the 1984/85 deployment, the department was able to maintain well qualified bridge watch teams while maintaining a high level of preservation and space maintenance. Despite the heavy work load, retention and advancement in Deck Department was consistently above the ship's average. This was due largely to the department's excellent training program. Every available opportunity was used to help Deck personnel become competent in a variety of areas, ranging from forklift driving to 3M and career counseling. Deck Department was especially busy during deployment port calls. When visiting numerous foreign cities during the deployment, department personnel worked quickly and efficiently to lower anchors, rig boat booms and accommodation ladders and lower ship's boats. The department was responsible for the operation of the 40' Captain's Gig, the 50' Utility Boat and two 26' motor whale boats, all of which saw heavy use during 1985. The department maintained an excellent safety record and contributed to the readiness, maintenance and safe and effective operation of CARL VINSON.

Communications Department. Throughout 1985, the emphasis for the Communications Department was on communications readiness and improved HF proficiency. Support for the embarked Battle Group Commander and Commander Destroyer Squadron 31 was conducted in a timely and reliable manner. Communication liaison visits were conducted with every communication station in the Western Pacific with the exception of NAVCOMMSTA Harold E. Holt, Australia. These visits were beneficial and helped to establish personal contacts and improve coordination for communication requirements. CARL VINSON was able to effectively provide all communication requirements for the embarked staff and the ship. This was accomplished using five AN/WSC-3 satellite transceivers installed prior to deployment. Although satellite communication was the primary means of passing traffic, the communications team was very successful in meeting COMSEVENTHFLT OPCON HF termination requirements. Not only did CARL VINSON surpass HF requirements, it set and established new send and receive message records which are now being used as standards for other aircraft carriers. The communicators continued their superb HF performance, participating in a COMSEVENTHFLT HF broadcast contingency operation from 1 to 7 May and a COMTHIRDFLT smallpipe from 12 to 14 May. During these exercises, all message traffic was processed via HF circuits. HF traffic averaged 1,248 incoming and outgoing messages daily. In addition, there were 1,465 Class E messages.

For their outstanding HF performance, CARL VINSON's communicators were recognized by every level in the chain of command including CINCPACFLT, COMSEVENTHFLT and COMNAVTELCOM. Newly installed systems and equipment included the Demand Assigned Multiple Access (DAMA) system, the Tactical Data Information Exchange Subsystem (TADIXS), the Officer in Tactical Command Information Exchange Subsystem (OTCIXS) and several new line-of-sight AN/WSC-3 transceivers.

Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department. AIMD continued to face, and overcome, numerous challenges during the deployment. Despite a long supply pipeline, AIMD maintained an outstanding turn-around time of 7.3 days. This was achieved by an all-hands effort, coupled with an outstanding test bench availability of 97.8 percent for the 234 test benches and truly outstanding supply support. A 98 percent support equipment availability exceeded normal operational levels and directly contributed to the high sortie success rate enjoyed by the embarked air wing. In the area of damage control, Repair 1F and Repair 1A, both manned almost exclusively by AIMD personnel, were rated the number one and two lockers on the ship. Additionally, the calibration and verification of 125 avionics test benches and the rework of nearly 300 pieces of support equipment rolling stock were completed. The introduction of flame spraying aluminum trioxide on all aircraft greatly reduced corrosion prevention requirements. Successfully blending all requirements was a monumental management challenge for all personnel. Throughout this period, the department achieved a reenlistment rate of 59 percent. In response to the CNO ZERO CETS (Civilian Engineering Technical Services) initiative, considerable progress was made. The department succeeded in obtaining 237 school billets to ensure maximum cross-training and fill many internal requirements.

Medical Department. 1985 began with 33 percent of the deployment completed and the Medical Department being named as the runner-up for the "Blue M" Battle Efficiency Award. The major objective of the Medical Department was to serve as the Medical Treatment Facility for ship's company, embarked air wing, flag staff and ships operating in Battle Group CHARLIE. The department also served as preceptor to Independent Duty Hospital Corpsmen assigned to ships in the battle group while providing on-site medical evaluation of the medical departments of these ships. The evaluations were beneficial and helped to ensure the highest quality of medical care was being rendered within the battle group. The Medical Department successfully coordinated the transfer of patients from ships within the battle group for evaluation by the medical staff and for further MEDEVAC to military hospitals when required. MEDEVACs in the North Arabian Sea and Indian Ocean were coordinated through Naval Support Activity Diego Garcia. Once at Diego Garcia, patients are flown to more definitive patient care at Clark AB by the 9th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron. In addition, daily logistical flights from Diego Garcia were used to move priority patients. The system worked smoothly and effectively in every case. An average of 1,650 outpatient visits and 150 physical exams were logged over the year. In support of those visits, an average of 420 X-rays, 20 electrocardiograms, 180 audiograms, 2,100 laboratory tests, and 1,500 filled prescriptions were performed each month.

The department admitted 226 inpatients to the ward and performed 174 emergency and elective surgical procedures at sea. The inpatient ward had a capacity of 64 general and 3 intensive care patients.

The following is the total surgeries and ward admissions for calendar year 1985.

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>SURGERIES</u>	<u>WARD ADMISSIONS</u>
January	37	51
February	51	41
March	41	35
April	28	36
May	7	29
June	0	0
July	0	0
August	0	0
September	0	0
October	4	10
November	6	24
December	0	0

CDR (b) (6) was relieved by CDR (b) (6) as Senior Medical Officer in August 1985.

Dental Department. Throughout 1985, the emphasis for the Dental Department was to strive for a 100 percent dental readiness classification for the ship's company and embarked air wing. By the end of the deployment, the Dental Department had accomplished a high state of dental readiness. In spite of the SRA, and extensive work-ups, the Dental Department received an outstanding evaluation for clinical services during the Command Inspection. During this time the Dental Department also established an effective Quality Assurance and Risk Management Program. By the end of 1985, the Dental Department accomplished the following procedures:

Restorative	16,154
Endodontics	613
Periodontics	9,225
Prosthodontics	1,025
Oral Surgery	2,317
Examinations	17,222
Laboratory	<u>3,006</u>
Total	49,562

Supply Department. During 1985, the Supply Department was the winner of the NEY award as the Navy's best Aircraft Carrier Food Service operation afloat. CARL VINSON's Supply Department made nearly a clean sweep of the COMNAVAIRPAC service awards. These included the Food Service Excellence/Wardroom Excellence Award (runner-up), the Laundryman Excellence Award, the Laundryman of the Year Award and the Ship's Store Excellence Award.

Air Department. Air Department had many notable accomplishments in 1985. These included 9,016 catapult launches and 8,595 arrested landings in 1985, bringing the ship's total arrested landings to 41,914 at the end of the year. V-3 Division made 588 aircraft moves and ended the year with no reportable crunches and no personnel injuries. V-4 Division received over 13,799,066 gallons of JP-5 from tankers and pumped over 13,817,099 gallons to aircraft.

Management Department. The Management Information Systems (MIS) Department provided configuration control and software support for various non-tactical computer systems used by CARL VINSON. In addition to the shipwide word processing and database management system, the department oversees the afloat research and development efforts sponsored by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) and implemented by the Naval Ocean Systems Center (NOSC). In 1985, the department was streamlined by returning the Shipboard Nontactical Automated Processing (SNAP) division to Supply Department's S-7 Division and moving the R&D Division into Supply's Administrative Support Division. Administrative Support has evolved to include these functions:

- Word Processing
- Mail System
- JP-5 Fuel Inventory
- Officer and Enlisted Personnel Database
- Message Drafting
- Radiation Health

The acceptance of the Wang System proved the viability of single-system, shipwide administrative support.

Administrative Department. During the deployment, over 1,000 personnel transfers took place, including TAD assignments, emergency leave, and routine transfers. With two qualified operators, the urinalysis testing program encompassed probable cause, command directed and surveillance program screens. Of the total 1,182 tests given during the deployment, 283 were generated by probable cause considerations, 616 were command directed and 283 were conducted under the surveillance program.

Awards. CARL VINSON received the Meritorious Unit Commendation while deployed to the Western Pacific and Indian Oceans from 10 November 1984 to 7 May 1985 while attached to Task Group 70.3 (Battle Group CHARLIE).



THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
WASHINGTON

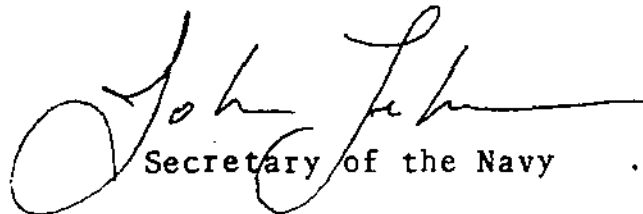
The Secretary of the Navy takes pleasure in presenting the
MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION to

TASK GROUP 70.3
(BATTLE GROUP CHARLIE)

for service as set forth in the following

CITATION:

For meritorious service while deployed to the Western Pacific and Indian Oceans from 10 November 1984 to 7 May 1985. During this period, Task Group 70.3 (Battle Group CHARLIE's) outstanding readiness and unsurpassed performance as a key unit of the SEVENTH Fleet were instrumental in attainment of national objectives. The Battle Group excelled in every facet of modern naval warfare while projecting seapower in many sensitive areas in the Pacific and Indian Ocean theaters. This was demonstrated when USS CARL VINSON (CVN 70) and assigned escorts displayed superb battle readiness during the politically sensitive Sea of Japan Operations conducted with the USS MIDWAY (CV 41) Battle Group. This superb performance continued during the three month period that the Battle Group remained on station in the North Arabian Sea. The record setting antisubmarine warfare prosecution of a Soviet submarine operating against the Battle Group was exhibited by the Battle Group's tactical acumen and operational expertise. This unprecedented antisubmarine warfare action, combined with the Battle Group's overall outstanding performance in all warfare areas, was testimony to their outstanding readiness. By their continuous display of professionalism, determination, and total devotion to duty, the officers, enlisted personnel, and civilian employees of Task Group 70.3 (Battle Group CHARLIE) reflected credit upon themselves and upheld the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service.


Secretary of the Navy

Weapons Department.

CALENDAR YEAR 1985

DATE EVENT

85 JAN 03 At-sea/WESTPAC/Indian Ocean Operations.
85 JAN 07 DST/MK-82 Bomb preparation/assembly.
85 JAN 09 Mine Proloads for VS-29.
85 JAN 09 .50 Caliber 13JP Sound Powered Phone Circuit installed.
85 JAN 19 Build-up contingency load
85 JAN 19 VertRep with USS Independence for BG turnover
85 JAN 26 Mine Proloads for all squadrons.
85 JAN 27 Torpedo Proloads for HS-4.
85 JAN 29 Build-up of MK-20 Rockeye contingency loads
85 JAN 29 Build-up of SUU-44 Pods.
85 JAN 29 Contingency exercise movement
85 FEB 03 Expended 6 MK-82 Test Bombs
85 FEB 12 Expended 8 MK-82 Test Bombs
85 FEB 16 BEACON FLASH 85 - 3.
(a) 230 MK-82 Live Bombs
(b) 28 MK-82 W/S/E FIN Bombs
(c) 5 MK-83 LGB-I
85 FEB 28 Torpedo Proloads for HS-4
85 MAR 01 Certified for Hypergolics; one of two West Coast carriers
so certified.
85 MAR 10 All squadrons conducted mine/DST/inert/Samson Proloads.
85 MAR 10 Ordnance Demonstration for Ships Company
85 MAR 13 Ordnance Demonstration for Ships Company
85 MAR 23 BEACON FLASH 85 - 4.
(a) 300 MK-82 Live Bombs
(b) 3 MK-83 LGB I
(c) 2 MK-83 LGB-II
85 APR 01 Completed CNO Special Project for MK-344 / 376 electrical
fuse evaluation (3 month duration).
85 MAY 05 Identified and corrected procedures for Indian Ocean Samson
Package turnover; recommendations accepted and incorporated
by AIRPAC.
85 MAY 20 Pre-sentenced and backloaded entire inventory (1800
pallets). Commanding Officer of USS MAUNA KEA, receiving
ship stated: "All ordnance received exactly as requested.
Clearly marked pallets indicate extra effort and true
professionalism."
(b) (3) (A) (b) (3) (A)
85 JUL 31 Two week Weapons Detachment to Fallon, Nevada in support of
CVWR - 30.
85 AUG 04 100% SRA 85 completion rate, 97% SFOMs 85 completion rate.
85 OCT 24 TRAINING READINESS EVALUATION - all Weapons areas were
evaluated as outstanding in preparation for training.
85 OCT 28 3-M Inspection by AIRPAC, outstanding score of 87.5, best
major department in the command.

85 NOV 27

INSURV Inspection: 3-M score of outstanding (85.7) was the best of any major department. (b) (3) (A)

- 85 DEC 06

NAVSEA Magazine Sprinkler System Test (MSST).

- (b) (3) (A)

(b) (3) (A)

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1985 RETENTION STATISTICS

USS CARL VINSON has an aggressive, well-trained and well organized Retention Team. Ensuring training levels within the command remain at the highest level, a monthly Career Information & Counseling Program for all Department and Divisional Career Counselors was held onboard. For Department Heads and Division Officers, a Career Information Program was also instituted to ensure awareness of the Retention Team Program and its mission. The command has 18 Department Career Counselors and 112 Division Career Counselors. This provides one counselor for every 26 men.

1985 RETENTION STATISTICS

	<u>Eligible</u>	<u>Ineligible</u>	<u>Reenlisted</u>	<u>Gross %</u>	<u>Ineligible</u>
First Term	590	97	195	28%	16%
Second Term	59	04	39	62%	.07%
Career	<u>91</u>	<u>01</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>73%</u>	<u>.01%</u>
Total	740	102	301	36%	12%

1985 DISTINGUISHED VISITORS AND MEDIA VISITS AT SEA

04 Feb Country and Western music entertainer Mickey Gilley and 20 members of his touring group were on board to perform for the officers and crew in two 90-minute concerts.

17-24 May Ship hosted 1,100 "Tigers" during transit from Pearl Harbor to Alameda at the end of the WESTPAC/Indian Ocean deployment.

24 May Twenty-five distinguished visitors embarked to ride the ship under the Golden Gate Bridge into San Francisco Bay for homecoming.

24 May Mickey Jenkins, Don Blue and one other member of radio station KYUU (FM 99.7) aired a live radio broadcast from the flight deck as the ship sailed into San Francisco Bay. Two representatives from two other area radio stations were also embarked. Three people from KRON TV-4 (NBC affiliate) set up for a live television broadcast from the flight deck; 12 others from five other TV stations were also embarked. Seventeen representatives from nine Bay Area newspapers and news services, including both San Francisco dailies, A.P. and U.P.I., were also embarked.

09-10 Oct Mr. Tony Scott, director of Paramount Pictures' "Top Gun," and an eight-man crew embarked to obtain extra flight deck and aerial footage for the movie "Top Gun". Two Navy liaison officers from the Navy Office of Information, Los Angeles embarked with the group.

09-10 Oct Four COMNAVAIRPAC Distinguished Visitors.

10-11 Oct Three CVN-70 Distinguished Visitors from the Auburn, California Navy League.

29-31 Oct RADM Oberg and four CVN 70 Distinguished Visitors.

01-02 Nov Four COMNAVAIRPAC Distinguished Visitors.

01-02 Nov Mr. Frank Mormillo, photographer for Japan's "Koku Fan," and England's "Armed Forces Magazine" and "Aircraft Illustrated."

03-04 Nov Six Distinguished Visitors from the office of SENATOR WILSON.

04-05 Nov Five COMCARGRU THREE and CNO Distinguished Visitors.

06-08 Nov Three members of the Placer County Navy League Council.

06-08 Nov Mr. Ian Padden, CHINFO-approved author, researching book on carrier aviation.

<u>15 Oct</u>	Hosted 50 members of the Washington Township Historical Society.
<u>16 Oct</u>	Ship gave a tour to 90 members of the Peninsula Retired Officers Association of Moffett Field.
<u>23 Oct</u>	150 members of the International Hosts Association, a group of business executives who host receptions for embassy consul generals, were on board for a tour of the ship followed by a dinner with the ship's officers and wives at the Officers' Club.
<u>24 Nov</u>	Ship's crewmembers delivered, cooked and served turkeys to many Bay Area Salvation Army posts for Thanksgiving dinner.
<u>10 Dec</u>	Ship received a Christmas tree from the San Francisco Downtown Committee for placing and decorating in the hangar bay.
<u>12 Dec</u>	Formal adoption by the ship of Daly City's Westmoor High School took place during a ceremony at the high school. The ship was represented by the Commanding Officer, Executive Officer, a Marine Color Guard and various officers and crewmembers.
<u>25 Dec</u>	Ship's crewmembers delivered, cooked and served turkeys to many Bay Area Salvation Army posts for a Christmas dinner.

1985 DISTINGUISHED VISITORS, MEDIA VISITS AND SPECIAL EVENTS IN PORT

19 Apr Press conference held on board for 18 media representatives from Western Australia upon arrival of Battle Group CHARLIE for a visit to Perth, Australia. Approximately 20 newspaper stories were generated on USS CARL VINSON during the six-day port visit.

20 Apr Three-man television crew from Perth's Channel 2 came on board and filmed a favorable, upbeat feature on ship's port visit. All three TV channels in Perth covered the fleet visit daily while in port.

06 Jun Golden West International Track Meet tour for 92 high school track stars from across the United States.

14 Jun KSTS-TV Channel 48, San Jose, sent a four-man crew to the ship to produce a 30-minute "Team At the Top" segment.

17 Jun San Francisco Navy League Council tour conducted for approximately 200 guests. Lunch provided to 100 on board with the remaining 100 guests eating at the Officers' Club.

18 Jun KPIX-TV Channel 5 sent a two-man team to film a feature on cooking in the ship's galley in recognition of the ship winning the Ney Award for Food Excellence.

25 Aug Ship hosted 40 members of the San Francisco Sheriff's Air Squadron for a tour.

31 Aug Hosted 2nd Annual Bay Area Special Olympics Picnic for 500 special Olympians and families and 800 crewmembers.

12 Oct Fleet Week 1985, a 5th annual Navy extravaganza, was hosted jointly by the city of San Francisco and the Navy to celebrate the Navy's 210th birthday. The celebration officially began Saturday, 12 October, with the arrival of at least a dozen ships in procession under the Golden Gate Bridge. USS CARL VINSON took part in the parade of ships and fired a gun salute to Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet, ADM James Lyons. The major social event of Fleet Week 1985 took place on the evening of 12 October at the annual Navy Ball hosted by San Francisco Mayor Diane Feinstein. The Mayor presented the City of San Francisco's Silver Service Award to Captain Mercer during the ball.

13 Oct Thirty members of a Baptist Church group toured CARL VINSON and attended a chapel service with the crew.

13 Oct Ship hosted 100 young people for a tour in support of Navy recruiting in the Bay Area.

CAPTAIN Thomas A. Mercer, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer, USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70)

Captain Thomas A. Mercer, (b) (6), graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1962.

After short tours as an instructor at the Naval Academy and service on board USS Randolph (CVS 15), Captain Mercer entered flight training and was designated a Naval Aviator in February 1964. After A-4C training with VA-44, he reported in August 1964 to VA-172 for a three-year tour, during which he completed two Mediterranean cruises and one Southeast Asia combat deployment on board USS Franklin D. Roosevelt (CVA 42).

In August 1967, he reported to the U.S. Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, California, where he received his Master's Degree in Aeronautical Engineering in September 1969.

Subsequently, Captain Mercer underwent training in the A-7E Corsair II at NAS Lemoore and reported to VA-195 as the squadron was transitioning to the Corsair in March 1970. With VA-195, he made two combat deployments to Southeast Asia on board USS Kitty Hawk (CV 63). After a 2 1/2-year tour at the Bureau of Naval Personnel as the Light Attack Placement Officer, he completed refresher training in the A-7E and then joined VA-82 as Executive Officer in July 1975.

The squadron deployed on board USS Nimitz (CVN 68) for its initial refresher training and a deployment to Northern Europe. In November 1976, he assumed command of VA-82 while embarked on board Nimitz on its first Mediterranean deployment.

Following this tour, Captain Mercer attended nuclear power training in Orlando, Florida, and nuclear prototype training in Idaho Falls, Idaho, prior to reporting to USS Enterprise (CVN 65) in July 1979 as Executive Officer.

In September 1981, he assumed command of USS Guadalcanal (LPH 7) in Palma de Mallorca, Spain and completed two Mediterranean deployments and three major exercises to Northern Europe and the Caribbean. He detached from Guadalcanal off the coast of Lebanon in March 1983.

He assumed command of USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70) on July 30, 1983, as Carl Vinson was deployed to the North Arabian Sea.

Among his awards are the Distinguished Flying Cross (three awards), four individual Flight Air Medals, 25 "Strike/Flight" Air Medals and six Navy Commendation Medals. He has logged over 3,500 hours in the A-4C and A-7E aircraft and has made 900 carrier landings.

Captain Mercer is married to the former (b) (6) of (b) (6) and they reside in (b) (6) (b) (6) with their son, (b) (6). Their other son, (b) (6) is a midshipman at the United States Naval Academy.